



FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Facts

U.S. Department of the Interior

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President Clinton's proposed \$1.2 billion FY 1995 budget for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would enable the Service to expand efforts to conserve wildlife and the ecosystems upon which they depend both at home and abroad.

The highlights of the proposed budget include:

- o Increasing endangered species funding 39 percent to \$81.4 million. This includes a 6 percent increase for prelisting activities (\$4.6 million), a 39 percent increase for consultations with other Federal agencies (\$20 million), and a 53 percent increase for recovery efforts (\$45.1 million).

Almost one half of the overall increase would be dedicated to a comprehensive program to manage Pacific Northwest forests as outlined in the President's Forest Plan. The Service would also increase listing, consultation and recovery efforts for endangered and threatened species along the U.S.-Mexico border and in South Florida.

- o Increasing refuge operation and maintenance funding 3 percent to \$170.4 million. Operations would climb 3 percent to \$116.4 million while maintenance would increase 2 percent to \$53.9 million. An operational increase of \$3.9 million would be expended on development of ecosystem-based plans and restoration of critically deteriorated or threatened habitats. The Service also would work cooperatively with Mexico to prevent habitat fragmentation and to expand efforts in the Everglades to restore habitat for threatened and endangered species.

- o Increasing habitat conservation funding 32 percent to \$66.3 million. The increase includes \$9 million for a "Jobs in the Woods" program initiated in support of the Forest Plan to employ displaced logging industry workers on ecosystem restoration projects in the Northwest. The Service also would expand technical assistance to the Agriculture Department's swampbuster, wetlands reserve, and Farmers Home Administration conservation easement programs. In addition, 7,000 acres of wetlands would be restored in voluntary partnership with private landowners as part of the Service's Private Lands Initiative. The Service also would focus on the Everglades ecosystem to identify resource problems and implement projects to restore wetlands and freshwater flows.

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o Increasing law enforcement funding 3 percent to \$35.6 million. In anticipation of increased trade with Mexico under the NAFTA agreement, the Service would augment its inspection capabilities at ports of entry to ensure that illegal traffic in wildlife and wildlife products does not grow.

o Increasing migratory bird management funding 3 percent to \$15.6 million. The increase would allow the Service to expand cooperative efforts with its Mexican counterparts to preserve and restore neotropical migratory bird populations. In addition, more funding would be provided to train reserve managers in Central and South America and to undertake surveys and habitat projects for migratory birds in the Everglades area.

o Increasing fisheries management funding 1 percent to \$68 million. The Service would work to improve water management in cooperation with Mexico to protect aquatic habitats and assist in the development of recreational fishery programs. Funding is also requested to enhance the Service's programs to improve conservation of wild fish stocks.